**United States Environmental Protection** Agency

Office of Solid Waste and **Emergency Response**  July 2000



## **SEPA** Descriptions of Seven Proposed Sites and 12 Final Sites Added to the National Priorities List in July **2000**

Office of Emergency and Remedial Response State & Site Identification Center (5204G)

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This document consists of descriptions of the seven proposed sites and 12 final sites added to the National Priorities List (NPL) in July 2000. The size of the site is generally indicated, based on information available at the time the site was scored using the Hazard Ranking System (HRS). The size may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. Sites are grouped according to proposed or final status, and are arranged alphabetically by site name within those groups.

#### **CLEANING UP UNDER SUPERFUND**

The Superfund program is managed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It is authorized by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), enacted on December 11, 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), enacted on October 17, 1986. In October 1990, SARA was extended to September 30, 1994. An appropriation by Congress for Fiscal Year 1995 authorized Superfund to continue to operate. The Hazardous Substance Response Trust Fund set up by CERCLA as amended pays the costs not assumed by responsible parties for cleaning up hazardous waste sites or emergencies that threaten public health, welfare, or the environment; Superfund also pays for overseeing responsible parties conducting cleanup.

Two types of responses may be taken when a hazardous substance is released, or threatens to be released, into the environment:

Removal actions -- emergency-type responses to imminent threats. SARA limits these actions to 1 year and/or \$2 million, with a waiver possible if the actions are consistent with remedial responses. Removal actions can be undertaken by the private parties responsible for the releases or by the Federal government using the Superfund.

Remedial responses -- actions intended to provide permanent solutions at uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Remedial responses are generally longer-term and more expensive than A Superfund-financed remedial response can be taken only if a site is on the NPL. EPA published the first NPL in September 1983. The list must be updated at least annually.

EPA's goals for the Superfund program are to:

- Ensure that polluters pay to clean up the problems they created: and
- Work first on the worst problems at the worst sites, by making sites safe, making sites clean, and bringing new technology to bear on the problem.

#### REMEDIAL RESPONSES

The money for conducting a remedial response at a hazardous waste site and a removal action, as well, can come from several sources:

The individuals or companies responsible for the problems can clean up voluntarily with EPA or State supervision, or they can be forced to clean up by Federal or State legal action.

- A State or local government can choose to assume the responsibility to clean up without Federal dollars.
- Superfund can pay for the cleanup, then seek to recover the costs from the responsible party or parties.

A remedial response, as defined by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, the Federal regulation by which Superfund is implemented, is an orderly process that generally involves the following steps:

- Take any measures needed to stabilize conditions, which might involve, for example, fencing the site or removing above-ground drums or bulk tanks.
- Undertake initial planning activities to scope out a strategy for collecting information and analyzing alternative cleanup approaches.
- Conduct a remedial investigation to characterize the type and extent of contamination at the site and to assess the risks posed by that contamination.
- Conduct a feasibility study to analyze various cleanup alternatives. The feasibility study is often conducted concurrently with the remedial investigation as one project. Typically, the two together take from 18 to 24 months to complete and cost approximately \$1.3 million.
- Select the cleanup alternative that:
  - -- Protects human health and the environment;
  - Complies with Federal and State requirements that are applicable or relevant and appropriate;
  - Uses permanent solutions and alternative treatment technologies or resource recovery technology to the maximum extent practicable;
  - Considers views of the State and public; and
  - Is "cost effective" -- that is, affords results proportional to the costs of the remedy.

- Design the remedy. Typically, the design phase takes 6 to 12 months to complete and costs approximately \$1.5 million.
- Implement the remedy, which might involve, for example, constructing facilities to treat ground water or removing contaminants to a safe disposal area away from the site.

EPA expects the implementation (remedial action) phase to average out at about \$25 million per site (plus any costs to operate and maintain the action), and some remedial actions may take several years to complete.

The State government can participate in a remedial response under Superfund in one of two ways:

- The State can take the lead role under a cooperative agreement, which is much like a grant in that Federal dollars are transferred to the State. The State then develops a workplan, schedule, and budget, contracts for any services it needs, and is responsible for making sure that all the conditions in the cooperative agreement are met. In contrast to a grant, EPA continues to be substantially involved and monitors the State's progress throughout the project.
- EPA can take the lead under a Superfund State Contract, with the State's role outlined. EPA, generally using contractor support, manages work early in the planning process. In the later design and implementation phases, contractors do the work under the supervision of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Under both arrangements, the State must share in the cost of the implementation phase of cleanup.

# National Priorities List Proposed Rule #33 Narrative Summaries

### **Site Name and Location**

Alark Hard Chrome, Riverside, California

Diamond Head Oil Refinery Div., Kearny, New Jersey

Nuclear Metals, Inc., Concord, Massachusetts

Portland Harbor, Portland, Oregon

Riverfront, New Haven, Missouri

Sutton Brook Disposal Area, Tewksbury, Massachusetts

Tri-County Public Airport, Delavan, Kansas

# National Priorities List Final Rule #29 Narrative Summaries

#### **Site Name and Location**

Big John Salvage - Hoult Road, Fairmont, West Virginia

Davis Timber Company, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Hamilton/Labree Roads Ground Water Contamination, Chehalis, Washington

Imperial Refining Company, Ardmore, Oklahoma

International Smelting and Refining, Tooele, Utah

Mallard Bay Landing Bulk Plant, Grand Cheniere, Louisiana

Newton County Wells, Newton County, Missouri

Palmer Barge Line, Port Arthur, Texas

Scovill Industrial Landfill, Waterbury, Connecticut

Southern Solvents, Inc., Tampa, Florida

St. Juliens Creek Annex (U.S. Navy), City of Chesapeake, Virginia

Star Lake Canal, Port Neches, Texas



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RK HARD CHROME

Washington, DC 20460

## ALARK HARD CHROME Riverside, California

The Alark Hard Chrome site occupies approximately 0.25 acre in a light industrial area of the city of Riverside. An electroplating shop operated on site from 1971 to 1985. Eighteen open plating tanks were housed in the front and middle rooms of the shop. The tanks were set directly on the ground in "cut outs" in the concrete floor. As metal parts were lifted out of each tank, the plating solution would drip and spill onto the floor and into the 3-inch to 5-inch gap between the tank and the floor. Plating solutions were also allegedly discharged directly into a 4-foot wide by 40-foot deep pit located in the middle room. Water from washdowns in the plating areas flowed into three floor drains that were routed to a 500-gallon underground holding tank located outside the rear of the building. The back room of the shop housed grinders and polishers. During a 1982 investigation of the site, personnel from the Riverside County Department of Health observed "pools of chemicals" outside the back door of the shop. In 1985, the owners of Alark Hard Chrome ceased operations and took the plating tanks off site. The underground holding tank was also taken off site sometime in the mid- or late-1980s.

In 1990 and 1991, a contractor to the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) conducted a subsurface soil investigation at the site. One hundred three (103) soil samples were collected from 24 boreholes drilled to depths ranging from 7.5 feet below ground surface (bgs) to 60 feet bgs. Analytical results indicated the presence of total chromium and hexavalent chromium at concentrations up to 4,380 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) and 1,100 mg/kg, respectively, to depths of at least 40 feet bgs in the middle room, 15 feet bgs in the back room, and 20 feet bgs adjacent to the former underground holding tank and outside the back door. Cadmium, cyanide, and nickel were also detected at elevated concentrations, but at fewer sample locations.

In 1994, a contractor to DTSC excavated 1,207.73 cubic yards of contaminated soil from a 26-foot wide by 30-foot long area in the middle room to depths ranging from 27 to 40 feet bgs. Post-excavation sampling results, as well as the 1990 and 1991 sampling results, indicate that contaminated soil is still present beneath the excavated area in the middle room and in other areas of the site.

Ten ground water monitoring wells have been installed in the vicinity of the site. Analytical results from a 1995 DTSC sampling event indicated the presence of total chromium and hexavalent chromium at concentrations up to 0.21 milligrams per liter (mg/l) and 0.27 mg/l, respectively, in the two monitoring wells located within 20 feet of the middle room of the shop. These two wells are screened in alluvial deposits. Eighteen municipal drinking water wells, which draw ground water from the Riverside basin alluvial deposits, are located within 4 miles of the Alark Hard Chrome site.

Surface runoff from the site enters a storm drain system that discharges into Springbrook Channel approximately 0.5 mile northwest of the site. The channel terminates in a diversion dam at Fairmount Lake, approximately 200 feet downstream of the discharge point. During periods of heavy rainfall, the flow in Springbrook Channel exceeds the capacity of the diversion dam, resulting in storm drain water flowing from the channel into Fairmount Lake. In 1992, a contractor to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), collected sediment samples from Springbrook Channel and Fairmount Lake. Total chromium was detected at concentrations of 6.5 mg/kg in the sample collected from the channel 300 feet upstream of the discharge point and 28.7 mg/kg in the sample collected from Fairmount Lake. Fairmount Lake flows into Lake Evans. Both are urban fishing lakes that are stocked with trout and catfish by the California Department of Fish and Game.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]



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### DIAMOND HEAD OIL REFINERY DIV. Kearny, New Jersey

The Diamond Head Oil Refinery Div. (Diamond Head) site is located at 1401 Harrison Ave. in Kearny, Hudson County, New Jersey. Currently, the site is inactive and consists of approximately 15 acres of undeveloped land that is bordered by Harrison Avenue to the north, entrance ramp M of Interstate 280 (I-280) to the east, I-280 to the south, and Campbell Distribution Foundry to the west. The site is comprised of wetland areas and drainage ditches, a small wetland/pond, a vegetated landfill area along the western border of the site, and the remnants of the former Diamond Head Oil Refinery on the eastern portion of the site. The abandoned refinery portion of the site contains various construction debris, including foundations of the former on-site building and two former aboveground storage tanks. The site is currently owned by the Hudson Meadows Urban Development Corporation (HMURDC).

The site was in operation from February 1, 1946 to early 1979. The facility operated under several company names including PSC Resources, Inc., Ag-Met Oil Service, Inc., and Newtown Refining Corporation. All of these companies were owned by Mr. Robert Mahler. In January 1985, Newtown Refining Corporation sold the property to Mimi Urban Development Corporation, which changed its name to Hudson Meadows Urban Development Corporation.

During facility operations, two aboveground storage tanks and possibly underground pits were used to store oily wastes. These wastes were intermittently discharged directly to adjacent properties, including the wetland area to the south of the site, creating an oil lake. The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) acquired the property south of the site on March 6, 1968. In 1977, NJDOT began construction of I-280 and was reported to have removed 9 million gallons of oil-contaminated water and 5 to 6 million cubic yards of oily sludge from the lake. The material was reportedly transported to Newtown Refining Corporation's facility on Long Island to be recycled; however, there are no reports stating that this recycling process occurred. It is also reported that during the construction of I-280, an underground lake of oil-contaminated ground water was found extending from the eastern limits of the NJDOT right-of-way to Frank's Creek on the west. It is reported that, prior to abandoning the site, Diamond Head cleaned out the two aboveground tanks; however, there is no known documentation of this activity. From the close of operations in 1979 until 1982, the abandoned site was not completely fenced. During this time, it was reported that dumping of waste oils and other debris took place on site. Refinement International Co. hired Eastern Chemical Co. to clean up the site in May 1982. In order to do so, the material in the tanks was analyzed and found to contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) at a concentration of 206 parts per million (ppm). Subsequent analyses revealed the presence of PCBs at concentrations over 3,100 ppm. Approximately 7,500 gallons of material were pumped out of the tanks and disposed off site by a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permitted Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility (TSDF) by Resource Technology Service. Environmental Transport also removed 27 tons of contaminated soil in May 1982.

Background information indicates that previous investigations have been conducted at the Diamond Head Oil Refinery Div. site. These investigations include a sampling event conducted by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), an Environmental Site Characterization conducted by Killam Associates, and a Site Inspection conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region II Field Investigation Team (FIT). During these investigations, ground water, surface water/sediment, surface/subsurface soil, liquid waste and solid waste samples were collected. Analytical results of these samples indicated the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, PCBs, and metals.

In December 1999 EPA conducted an Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) at the Diamond Head Oil Refinery Div. site. During the ESI, EPA collected surface/subsurface soil and ground water samples from 20 borings advanced throughout the site. EPA also collected sediment samples from the on-site wetland/pond area as well as from the wetland area extending along the southern perimeter of the site. Analytical results indicated the presence of VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides, PCBs, and metals. An observed release to surface water is documented by chemical analyses of sediment samples collected from wetlands along the southern and western boundaries of the site. Level II concentration of lead and zinc are documented to 0.19 mile of wetland frontage located along the southern perimeter of the site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]



# NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

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# NUCLEAR METALS, INC. Concord, Massachusetts

The Nuclear Metals, Inc. (NMI) facility is located on a 46.4-acre parcel located at 2229 Main Street in Concord, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. The facility includes five interconnected buildings, a paved parking area, a sphagnum bog, a cooling water recharge pond, and a holding basin. The NMI facility currently operates as Starmet Corporation. The topography of the property slopes down to the north. The property is bordered to the north by Main Street, commercial and residential properties, and the Assabet River; to the east by woodland and residential properties; to the west by woodland and commercial/industrial properties; and to the south by woodland and residential properties.

In 1958, NMI began operating a manufacturing facility on previously undeveloped land. Nuclear Metals, Inc. produced depleted uranium products, primarily as penetrators for armor piercing ammunition. They also manufactured metal powders for medical applications, photocopiers, and speciality metal products, such as beryllium tubing used in the aerospace industry. From 1958 to 1985, NMI discharged wastes to an unlined holding basin. Cast depleted uranium ingots or billets were jacketed, sealed, and evacuated in copper cans, which were then heated and extruded into long rod stock. The extruded depleted uranium rod had a resulting thin layer of copper coating, which was removed in a nitric acid pickling operation. During the pickling process, "small quantities" of copper and uranium were dissolved in the nitric acid. The spent nitric acid solution was collected, neutralized with a lime slurry, and then discharged to the unlined, inground holding basin. Small quantities of other speciality metal products including steel jacketed beryllium, stainless steel, and titanium alloys were also pickled at various times with several different acids (nitric, hydrofluoric, and sulfuric), and discharged to the holding basin. The discharge to the holding basin ceased in 1985 when NMI began using an acid closed—loop recycling process.

In addition to natural and depleted uranium (as elemental, oxide, and fluoride), NMI handled thorium and thorium oxide under license to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC); sulfuric and nitric acids for process activities; 1,1,1-trichloroethane as a solvent; trichlorofluoroethane as a degreaser; zirconium; magnesium; beryllium; acetone; hydrogen peroxide; flammable gases (propane and acetylene); and oxygen. Two 10,000-gallon underground storage tanks were used for the storage of No. 4 fuel oil. Several of the following oils were used and recycled on site: DTE light, DTE heavy, Medium DTE 25, vacuum oil (HE1SO), and No. 7d.

On October 1, 1997, NMI was renamed Starmet Corporation. In March 1997, the company's license to handle source material (including depleted uranium, thorium, and thorium oxide) under the NRC was transferred to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In accordance with Massachusetts state license SM-0179, Starmet is allowed to use source material (including depleted uranium, thorium, and thorium oxide) to manufacture, research, develop, and distribute metallic products in a variety of forms including castings, extrusions, and metal powders. Starmet continues to conduct a variety of metallurgical tasks, including extrusions, beryllium aluminum alloy investment coatings, and depleted uranium processing. According to Starmet, one-third of Starmet's core business is producing speciality metal powder using a rotating electrode process.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (MADEQE) collected ground water samples and detected volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) in NMI's supply well, previously used for drinking water. Analytical results indicate that the ground water beneath the property is contaminated by VOCs, metals, and radionuclides (i.e uranium and thorium). In addition, a sphagnum bog on the property has also been sampled and shown evidence of VOCs, metals, and radionuclides.



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## PORTLAND HARBOR Portland, Oregon

The Willamette River originates within Oregon in the Cascade Mountain Range and flows approximately 187 miles north to its confluence with the Columbia River. The Lower Reach of the Willamette River from River Mile (RM) 0 to approximately RM 26.5 is a wide, shallow, slow moving segment that is tidally influenced with tidal reversals occurring during low flow periods as far upstream as RM 15. The river segment between RM 3 and RM 10 is the primary depositional area of the Willamette River system. The Lower Reach has been extensively dredged to maintain a 40-foot deep navigation channel from RM 0 to RM 14. This segment of the Lower Reach contains a highly industrialized area known as Portland Harbor, which contains a multitude of facilities and both private and municipal waste water outfalls. Up to 17 industrial operations have been identified as potential sources of contamination to Portland Harbor between RM 3.5 and RM 9.5; however, because not all sources of contamination to this river segment have been thoroughly investigated, the site is being evaluated as contaminated sediments with no identified source.

In July 1997, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) collected surface sediment samples between RM 3.8 and RM 8.9 from Portland Harbor as part of a pre-dredging sediment quality study. Analytical results document the presence of contaminated sediments in this river segment having elevated concentrations of arsenic, mercury, several pesticides, and several semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs).

In September and October 1997, consultants for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted field work for a Site Inspection (SI) in the Lower Reach of the Willamette River within Portland Harbor. This sampling effort included the collection of bottom sediment and porewater samples from near shore areas between RM 3.5 and RM 9.2. Analytical results document the presence of contaminated sediments in this river segment having elevated concentrations of several inorganics (i.e., metals), several SVOCs, dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethene (DDT), and tributyltin (TBT).

Recreational fishing is extremely popular throughout the Lower Willamette River basin. Species most desired are spring chinook, steelhead, coho, shad, and white sturgeon. Spring chinook contribute substantially to the mainstem Columbia River sport fishery and consistently support the largest recreational fishery in the Lower Willamette River. The chinook fishery in the Willamette River occurs between Oregon City and the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers, which includes the area of sediment contamination. The Willamette River is also an important fish stream with spawning populations of chinook and coho salmon, steelhead, American shad, Pacific lamprey, and white sturgeon. The Lower Reach of the Willamette River to Willamette Falls provides a migratory corridor for both juvenile and adult anadromous fish and juvenile rearing habitat for several anadromous fish species. Three runs of chinook, two runs of steelhead, and individual runs of coho and sockeye salmon occur in this area. Several of these runs are either listed or proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act.



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### RIVERFRONT New Haven, Missouri

The Riverfront site encompasses a plume of tetrachloroethylene (PCE)-contaminated ground water underlying the town of New Haven, Missouri. The site is being proposed to the NPL because of the presence of this contaminant plume, which has affected the town's municipal water supply. PCE has been detected in municipal wells at levels above health-based benchmarks (that is, at levels which the scientific community has determined may pose health risks). The municipal water supply is the only source of drinking water for New Haven and serves the town's entire population of more than 1,700.

PCE has been detected in New Haven Well No. 1 at concentrations ranging from 1.8 micrograms per liter ( $\mu$ g/L) to 21  $\mu$ g/L. PCE has also been detected in New Haven Well No. 2. PCE concentrations in this well have increased steadily over time and have been as high as 140  $\mu$ g/L. EPA has established a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PCE of 5  $\mu$ g/L. This is the highest permissible level allowed by EPA in drinking water.

In May 1993, MDNR notified the municipality of New Haven that it was operating in violation of state and federal drinking water regulations because concentrations of PCE in New Haven Well No. 2 continued to exceed the MCL. New Haven Well No. 2 was subsequently taken out of service. New Haven Well No. 1 is currently used as a standby well for emergency situations.

PCE has never been detected in New Haven's other municipal wells. New Haven Well No. 3, which has been in operation since before the PCE plume was first detected, is located approximately 1 mile southwest of New Haven Wells No. 1 and No. 2. In September 1994, a new municipal well, New Haven Well No. 4, was installed. New Haven Well No. 4 is located approximately 0.4 miles north-northwest of Well No. 3 and approximately 0.8 miles southwest of New Haven Wells No. 1 and No. 2. Sampling by various agencies has shown no detectable concentrations of PCE in New Haven Wells No. 3 or No. 4.

Based on information gathered during the site investigations to date, several potential contributors to the PCE contamination have been identified. The use of PCE has been documented at two potential facilities in the area and soil samples collected from these facilities indicate the presence of PCE. However, due to the presence of other potential contributors and complex hydrogeology in the area, the PCE detected in the municipal wells cannot be definitely attributed to either of these facilities.



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### SUTTON BROOK DISPOSAL AREA Tewksbury, Massachusetts

The Sutton Brook Disposal Area ("the site"), which is roughly synonymous with the Rocco's Disposal Area site, is located off South Street on the eastern boundary of Tewksbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. The site is in excess of 50 acres. A small portion of the site also extends into the Town of Wilmington, Massachusetts. The Sutton Brook Disposal Area is bounded by a former railroad grade along the northern boundary, beyond which is a former piggery and a forested area; residential properties to the west; undeveloped woodland and wetlands to the south; and the Tewksbury/Wilmington Town Line and agricultural land to the east. The site comprises three source areas; a 50-acre landfill, an area of buried drums, and contaminated soils associated with the drum disposal area. These three source areas are located on what is known as the Rocco's Disposal Area. Several additional drum burial areas and suspected disposal areas have recently been identified in the vicinity of the site and are currently being investigated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP). As additional information becomes available, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will determine whether these other source areas should be included in the Sutton Brook Disposal Area site.

Waste disposal activities at the Sutton Brook Disposal Area can be traced back to at least 1957, when an area of the site was used as a "burning dump." This area was originally designated by the Tewksbury Board of Health as a temporary disposal area (landfill). In 1961, the temporary assignment was modified to require that the landfill on the site be operated as a sanitary landfill, accepting municipal refuse generated only in the Town of Tewksbury, Massachusetts. The assignment was not complied with, as the landfill accepted municipal, commercial, and industrial wastes from both inside and outside the Town of Tewksbury. The owners of the landfill received numerous violation citations from state and local officials for violating Massachusetts Sanitary Landfill Regulations.

In 1966, the Town of Tewksbury was ordered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the Commonwealth) Commissioner of Public Health to operate the landfill using the sanitary landfill method. However, after 1966, there were documented occurrences of landfill burning, uncovered waste areas, the filling in of on-site wetlands, wastes disposed below the water table, and landfill slopes which exceeded operation plans. Due to these violations, the Commonwealth ordered the closure of the landfill in 1979. At the time of its closure in 1979, the landfill was accepting in excess of 250 tons of waste per day. Despite the closure order, landfill operations continued until 1982, when official landfill operations were suspended, but waste acceptance continued through 1988.

The area of the landfill is approximately 50 acres. The landfill volume is estimated at approximately 1.9 million cubic yards. During the 1999 EPA Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) on-site reconnaissance, a number of erosional cuts, leachate seeps, and collapsed areas were observed in the cover material of the landfill. Sutton Brook (and associated wetlands) flows east to west through the property, dividing the landfill into northern and southern lobes. Additional wetlands areas are located south of the landfill and along the eastern and western portions of the property. Approximately 300 yards south of the landfill is an unnamed pond, used seasonally for ice skating.

In 1983, a loam screening business began operation on the property. On August 11, 1983, during an inspection by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (MADEQE) (currently MADEP), underground burning was observed through fissures in the ground in the southern landfill lobe. During a subsequent inspection conducted by MA DEQE personnel on August 12, 1983, flames and smoke were no longer visible after heavy machinery had covered the fissures with soil. Subsequent investigations by Tewksbury Health Inspectors and MADEQE documented piles of demolition debris and soil on areas of the property, in some cases adjacent to and/or encroaching upon on-site wetland areas.

Numerous investigations of the site by local, state, and federal organizations have revealed the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and inorganic elements in on-site and off-site ground water, surface water, sediment, soil, and VOCs and SVOCs in air samples.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]



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### TRI-COUNTY PUBLIC AIRPORT Delavan, Kansas

The Tri-County Public Airport (TCPA) facility comprises approximately 3.5 square miles and is located in Delavan, Morris County, Kansas. The site is being proposed to the NPL based on evidence of ground water contamination by chlorinated solvents, specifically trichlorethylene (TCE) and 1,2-dichloroethene (DCE). TCE has been detected in privately owned domestic wells within 3 miles of the site at levels above health-based benchmarks (that is, at levels which the scientific community has determined may pose health risks).

The TCPA was originally constructed as the Herington Army Airfield (HAAF) in 1942 and was officially declared surplus in 1946. The airfield property and buildings were quit-claimed by deed to the City of Herington in 1948. Most of the 300 buildings and structures associated with HAAF have been razed or removed. From 1948 to the present, the site has been used by a number of companies for various purposes. Operations have included aircraft restoration, plane storage, and manufacturing of farm implements, black powder, and roofing materials. From 1950 to the early 1960s, Beech Aircraft (Beech) leased all four hangars and several other buildings at the site. In 1980, the Raytheon Aircraft Company (RAC) acquired Beech. Operations conducted by Beech at the site consisted of a chromium conversion coat process, vapor degreasing, painting, paint stripping, wing-tank manufacturing, aircraft refurbishing, aluminum processing, aircraft starter generator manufacturing, and steel wing-tank shipping container manufacturing. A wastewater treatment system was used by Beech for treating chromium process solutions and rinse waters. TCE was used by Beech in vapor degreasers at Hangars 1 and 4. Paint-stripping wastewater was transferred to a holding pond located to the north of Hangar 1, in or near an area that is now considered a potential burial area.

Several investigations have been conducted at the site, including investigations by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and EPA. The results of the investigations indicate that ground water has been contaminated with TCE and DCE within 3 miles to the north and northwest of TCPA, including the entire town of Latimer, Kansas. TCE has been detected in ground water samples collected from private wells within this distance at concentrations ranging from 3 micrograms per liter  $(\mu g/L)$  to 280  $\mu g/L$ . TCE concentrations in 21of the 23 private wells sampled exceeded the 5  $\mu g/L$  maximum contaminant level (MCL) established by EPA as the highest permissible level of TCE allowed in drinking water. The highest concentration of TCE in a sample from a drinking water well (56  $\mu$ g/L) was collected from the nearest private property directly north of TCPA.

Four separate ground water aquifers lie beneath the site. These aquifers are used for private drinking water and agricultural purposes. No municipal systems draw ground water from within 4 miles of the airfield; however, 92 private wells have been identified within this area. All the aquifers known to be used in the vicinity of TCPA have been shown to be contaminated with TCE. EPA and KDHE have provided bottled water or whole house filtration systems to 15 affected homes.



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## BIG JOHN SALVAGE - HOULT ROAD Fairmont, West Virginia

Conditions at Proposal (February 4, 2000): The approximately 20-acre Big John Salvage Hoult Road site is located in Marion County, a predominantly rural county of northcentral West Virginia. The site is situated in a mixed industrial/residential area of Fairmont, West Virginia. The site lies along the eastern edge of WV Route 15 (Hoult Road), approximately 1,320 feet east of the Monongahela River. The site is bordered on the north, south and east by wooded terrain. The Sharon Steel (Fairmont Coke) Superfund site is located on the southeastern side of the site. The Monongahela River lies to the west of the site. An unnamed tributary of the Monongahela River flows along the southern border of the site and drains into the Monongahela River.

The site was originally owned and operated by the Reilly Tar and Chemical Corporation (RTCC) from 1932 until 1973. Approximately 12,000 gallons of crude tar waste from the nearby Domestic Coke Corporation and Dupont Coke plant were processed at the site daily from 1932 until 1957. The RTCC was investigated as the possible source of tar and phenol in 1940 and 1944 by the West Virginia Department of Health (WVDH). The RTCC was also investigated by the WV Department of Natural Resources (WVDNR) in 1971 as a possible source of phenol in the Monongahela River. As a result of these investigations, phenol was detected in the unnamed tributary and the Monongahela River at elevated levels. In January 1973, the RTCC sold its property on Hoult Road to Big John Salvage.

In December 1982, EPA learned that wastes were being received at the Big John Salvage-Hoult Road site from the nearby Westinghouse Electric Corporation (WEC) facility. These wastes included oils that contained elevated levels of mercury. In July 1983, EPA collected tar, surface water, sediment, and biological samples from the site. Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were detected in on-site soils and in sediment at the confluence of the unnamed tributary of the Monongahela River and the Monongahela River. Samples collected from on-site cullet piles contained elevated levels of lead and mercury.

In January 1984, EPA entered into a consent order with the owner of Big John Salvage, Inc. requiring removal of all drums and cullet piles, and draining the on-site oil separator; all work was to be completed by June 1984. As of June 11, 1984, no work had been completed. In July 1984, upon receipt of funding approval, EPA issued oral demands to the owners of Big John Salvage and RTCC to clean up the site. Big John Salvage agreed to address the cullet piles and RTCC agreed to initiate clean up activities under the direction of EPA. A consent order was executed with RTCC requiring the removal of all on-site coal tar related wastes. Satisfactory cleanup operations occurred from October 1984 through April 16, 1985.

In the fall of 1992, the EPA Region III Superfund Removal Branch conducted a cleanup at the Big John Salvage property that focused on the removal of drums containing hazardous materials. Approximately 60 drums containing flammable and corrosive liquids were removed. In 1997, the land was purchased by Steel Fabricators Inc. apparently for timber operations.

In March 1998, the West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) discovered that a previously empty 20,000-gallon vertical tank had been removed from the Big John Salvage yard and transported to the adjacent Sharon Steel property. The tank was later found to contain used oil or coal tar oil. WVDEP also observed two large excavation pits on the Big John property. Sampling confirmed the presence of oil, antifreeze, and diesel fuel in these pits. WVDEP also collected soil samples from a glass cullet pile and confirmed the presence of lead in the soil adjacent to the cullet pile. In December 1998, EPA completed a removal action at the site in which the oil pits and surrounding contaminated soil were removed.

During a March 1999 Site Inspection (SI) environmental media samples were collected to assess the environmental impact the site had on the Monongahela River, which is used as a public fishery. Sampling results show that the surface water of the Monongahela River and its unnamed tributary are being contaminated with elevated levels of metals and various PAHs. At other sampling locations within the unnamed tributary areas, PAHs and metals were found at elevated concentrations. Benzo(a)pyrene is of special concern because this hazardous substance tends to bioaccumulate within human food chain organisms.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]



### NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

**July 2000** 

State, Tribal, and Site Identification Center

Washington, DC 20460

# DAVIS TIMBER COMPANY Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Conditions at Proposal (May 11, 2000): The site encompasses a 30-acre property formerly used by the Davis Timber Company for timber processing and wood preserving. The property is located on Jackson Road, approximately 3 miles northwest of Hattiesburg, Lamar County, Mississippi. The site is being proposed to the NPL because investigations conducted while the facility was operational indicated that hazardous substances associated with the wood treating process, pentachlorophenol (PCP), chlorodibenzofurans, and dioxins, have caused fish kills and contaminated fisheries and recreational areas in nearby surface waters.

Davis Timber Company conducted timber processing and wood preserving operations at the facility from 1972 until 1987, when the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) ordered Davis Timber Company to discontinue wood preserving operations. According to MDEQ, Davis Timber Company subsequently declared bankruptcy in 1990. The property is presently owned by Lamar Industries, which has continued debarking operations; however, no wood preserving operations are presently conducted at the property. The former facility was comprised of a skag mill, debarker, pole peeler, holding pond, office, treating cylinder, cooling pond, oil separator, two above ground oil storage tanks, two above ground PCP solution storage tanks, and a storage yard. Davis Timber Company operations included bark removal, wood treatment using PCP, and product storage. Davis Timber Company discharged wastewater containing PCP into a holding pond approximately 2 acres in size. In 1980, the facility's holding pond was closed, backfilled, and capped with approximately 6 to 8 inches of clay.

Surface water runoff from the property flows to the north into two intermittent tributaries of Mineral Creek, East Mineral Creek and West Mineral Creek. The tributaries flow north into Country Club Estates Lake, a 66-acre lake located approximately 1.25 miles downstream of the facility. Mineral Creek flows from Country Club Estates Lake north northeast for approximately 4 miles and feeds a privately owned lake just prior to converging with the Bowie River, which flows southeast approximately 4.75 miles and enters the Leaf River.

Country Club Estates Lake is a recreational fishery and designated recreation area. Between December 1974 and January 1987, MDEQ documented numerous fish kills in Country Club Estates Lake. Several of the fish kills were attributed to documented releases of PCP from the holding pond at the Davis Timber Company facility. In 1988, in response to the PCP contamination, MDEQ issued an advisory against fishing for commercial purposes and against consuming fish caught from Country Club Estates Lake. However, residents of Country Club Estates continued to fish in the lake. In addition, the privately owned lake, located near the confluence of Mineral Creek and Bowie River, is fished and used for recreational purposes. Both the Bowie and Leaf Rivers are heavily fished for consumption. There are also two surface water intakes located along the Bowie River and one surface water intake located along the Leaf River. These intakes are used for industrial purposes. An additional intake along Mineral Creek is used for recreational purposes.

PCP, chlorodibenzofurans, and dioxins have been detected at elevated levels in Country Club Estates Lake and in the intermittent creeks leading from the facility to Country Club Estates Lake. The area surrounding the former Davis Timber Company property is rural. No other industries or companies are located in the vicinity of the property that could have contributed to the fish kills and type of contamination found in West Mineral Creek, East Mineral Creek, or Country Club Estates Lake.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]



**July 2000** 

OSWER/OERR

State, Tribal, and Site Identification Center

Washington, DC 20460

# HAMILTON/LABREE ROADS GROUND WATER CONTAMINATION Chehalis, Washington

Conditions at Proposal (May 11, 2000): In order to address the long-term threat to drinking water, the EPA is proposing this site to the NPL. The Hamilton/Labree Roads Ground Water Contamination site is located 3 miles southwest of the City of Chehalis in southwest Washington. In 1993, testing of the drinking water wells by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) revealed that six wells in the vicinity of the intersection of Hamilton and Labree Roads were contaminated with tetrachloroethene (PCE). PCE, a suspected human carcinogen, is a chemical commonly used as a solvent in metal degreasing and cleaning operations, dry cleaning and other industrial uses. PCE levels ranged from 3 ug/L to 2,165 ug/L; reportedly the highest level found in drinking water in the State of Washington. The maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PCE in the Federal Drinking Water Regulations is 5  $\mu$ g/L. The known contaminated drinking water wells are located in a shallow aquifer, approximately 40 to 60 feet below ground surface (bgs); however, wells located in a deeper aquifer, approximately 150 to 200 feet bgs, were not contaminated. Lewis County Health Department informed affected well owners of the test results and advised them to obtain alternate sources of drinking water. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), is currently supplying bottled drinking water for some of the families and businesses in the affected area. Ecology has installed a well treatment system on one residential well. Some neighbors use water from deep wells for general household uses, but drink bottled water as a safeguard.

Ecology obtained anecdotal information that indicated that drums containing solvents may have been buried or emptied in the late 1970s or early 1980s, near the center of the property northeast of the Hamilton/Labree Roads intersection. This property houses several buildings and presently is owned by S.C. Breen Construction Company. The property was occupied by a surplus store and Breen construction maintenance shop, but has recently been the location of Bulldog Trailer Manufacturing. Interviews with local residents yielded information that the surplus store acquired a variety of chemicals for which it did not have ready market and some of these items, in 55-gallon drums and smaller containers, disappeared at the same time that a large pit had been excavated on the Breen property and subsequently filled over the course of one weekend in the early 1980s.

In an attempt to locate a source of the PCE contamination in the ground water, Ecology performed a geophysical investigation in October 1996 for the property located at the intersection of Hamilton and Labree Roads. The investigation did not show any clear evidence of buried intact drums, although the results of the electromagnetic survey did show some anomalies. In September 1999, an excavation was started at one of the anomaly areas inside the Bulldog Trailer building, which is approximately 100 feet long and 50 feet wide. Within two feet below the ground, two 55-gallon drums were uncovered. The excavation was continued both towards the east and west of the building. Three layers of 55-gallon drums were found up to a depth of 10 feet. Approximately 63 drums were excavated from this location. The drums were transported off-site by the S.C. Breen Construction Company, to a RCRA Treatment, Storage, and Disposal facility on November 4, 1999.

All the drums contained a black viscous product (sludge) and water (ground water had seeped into the drums). Most of the drums were leaking at the time of removal and the leaked product was sampled. There were two distinct phases (water and sludge) and both phases were sampled. The results indicated the presence of several volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including PCE and several of this compound's degradation products including cis-1,2-dichloroethene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, trichloroethene (TCE), and vinyl chloride. PCE contamination was also observed in residential wells that are presumably cross-gradient (Hamilton and High Reach wells 3 and 4) from the Breen property; therefore, it is possible that the contamination in these wells indicates a separate source area independent from the source area on the Breen property.

To date, Ecology has completed four quarterly sampling events (October 1997 and January, April, and July 1998), which have included collecting ground water samples from the six drinking water wells within the PCE contamination plume, along with eight monitoring wells. Additionally, Ecology sampled these wells during two semiannual sampling events in February and July 1999. Seven new monitoring wells were installed and sampled as part of the second semiannual event. Phase I and II investigations were completed in 1997, which included collecting samples from the six drinking water wells. The Washington State DOH has completed three rounds of domestic well sampling at this site (September 1993, March 1994, and June 1996).

There are a total of 252 drinking water wells screened within the shallow aquifer. The City of Napavine currently operates 3 public supply wells which serve approximately 1,256 people; all of these wells are screened in the shallow aquifer and are located within 3 to 4 miles from the intersection of Hamilton and Labree Roads.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]



**July 2000** 

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## IMPERIAL REFINING COMPANY Ardmore, Oklahoma

Conditions at Proposal (May 11, 2000): Imperial Refining Company is an inactive and abandoned crude oil refinery located on the east and the west side of State Highway 142 in the northeast portion of Ardmore, Carter County, Oklahoma. The property covers 55 acres of land bordered by undeveloped land to the south and east, a small residential area and industry to the north, and lagoons from an active local refinery to the west. The area surrounding the site is mainly undeveloped. The site is being proposed to the NPL because hazardous substances have migrated and/or could migrate to wetlands and other sensitive environments on or near the property. Hazardous substances detected at the site include benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX compounds), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and metals including lead, arsenic, chromium, nickel, selenium, and zinc.

Imperial Refinery purchased the property in 1917 and began petroleum refining operations. The refinery declared bankruptcy in 1934, ceased operations, and dismantled all tanks and storage equipment by 1948. During tank dismantling, tank bottom material was dumped onto the ground throughout the property. There is no evidence to indicate that any activity has occurred on the property since the Imperial Refinery closed.

In 1998, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) conducted a Site Inspection (SI), and referred the facility to EPA. EPA initiated a removal assessment at Imperial Refining. During the SI and removal assessment, investigators noted twelve waste piles containing discarded tank bottom material scattered throughout the property, in the approximate locations where the storage tanks once stood. These dry, asphalt-like tar mats range in size from approximately 2,224 square feet to 58,028 square feet. Soil, sediment, waste pile, and surface water samples were collected during the SI and removal assessment. Chemical analyses of waste pile samples revealed elevated concentrations of hazardous substances including BTEX compounds, PAHs, lead, arsenic, chromium, nickel, selenium, and zinc.

Surface water runoff from the waste piles drains toward wetlands in the southern part of the property. Chemical analyses of wetland sediment and water samples revealed elevated concentrations of PAHs (benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, chrysene, and pyrene), chromium, and zinc. These wetlands are a unique biotic community and habitat for the alligator snapping turtle, an Oklahoma Species of Special Concern.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.



**July 2000** 

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## INTERNATIONAL SMELTING AND REFINING Tooele, Utah

Conditions at Proposal (April 23, 1999): The International Smelting and Refining (ISR) site is located on the west flank of the Oquirrh Mountains near the mouth of Pine Canyon, approximately 2 miles northeast of Tooele, in north-central Utah. The canyon is drained by Pine Creek, which flows over an alluvial fan at the mouth of the canyon. The smelter and distal tailings ponds were located on the alluvial fan. Copper smelting began in 1910 under the ownership of ISR, with a capacity of 4,000 tons of copper ore per day. Two years later copper ore supplies declined and ISR built a lead smelter. In 1915, Anaconda purchased the ISR subsidiary. Over several years the owners added a lead-zinc sulfide flotation mill and a slag treatment plant for lead and zinc recovery. Copper production ceased in 1946, when the copper smelter closed. Lead smelting ceased in early 1972 and the site was reclaimed in 1986. An estimated 650,000 tons per year of tailings, slag, and flue dust were produced during the early years of operations at the ISR site.

Livestock deaths in the area of the site have been attributed to arsenic, lead, and sulfuric acid poisoning. The State of Utah Department of Environmental Quality, through personal communication, also documented 20 cattle deaths due to cadmium poisoning. During a 1985 site inspection, EPA noted dust blowing off tailings. Emissions of metal-containing smoke and acid gases were reported during ISR operations.

The site comprises about 1,200 acres. Site sources consist of approximately 330 acres of tailings, 27.5 acres of metals-contaminated slag, 13 acres of settlings ponds, approximately 50 acres of landfills, and 125 acres of smelter wastes associated with the site operations. Investigations indicate the presence of arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, and zinc in contaminated soils, tailings, and slag.

In 1985, a consultant completed a Reclamation/Stabilization Plan (RSP) for the Carr Fork and ISR sites. Samples were collected from wells and springs down-gradient of the ISR property, and from many on-site and off-site soils and tailings, waste piles, and dumps. This investigation noted arsenic and lead concentrations in ground water and surface water samples that exceeded maximum contaminant levels for drinking water.

The State of Utah performed an Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) in 1996. The ESI Analytical Results Report indicates that soil caps overlying numerous source areas are eroding or are poorly vegetated. The source areas do not have containment features, and numerous tailings piles are deposited along the banks of Dry Creek, an ephemeral drainage south of the site and Pine Creek. Data from the ESI indicate observed release concentrations of several metals in samples collected from soil, surface water, and ground water.

Soils in Lincoln, Utah, about 1.5 miles northwest of the site, have been affected by emissions from the site. A 1985 EPA study documented dust blowing off of tailings piles and during the 1995 DERR ESI, children were observed playing on bare soils. The site is accessible and used for recreation by off-road motorcyclists and all-terrain vehicle users. The area surrounding and including the ISR site was designated the "Carr Fork Reclamation and Wildlife Management Area" in 1994.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.



# NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

**July 2000** 

OSWER/OERR

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### MALLARD BAY LANDING BULK PLANT Grand Cheniere, Louisiana

Conditions at Proposal (May 11, 2000): Mallard Bay Landing Bulk Plant formerly known as Talen's Landing Bulk Plant is an inactive and abandoned crude oil refinery and bulk storage facility located on the north bank of the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW), near mile marker 193, 23 miles northeast of Grand Cheniere, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The site comprises a 10-acre tract of land bordered to the north and west by an unnamed road, and to the south by Talen's Marine and Fuel, an active refueling facility and dock. Wooded wetlands border the eastern, western, and southern portions of the facility property. The site is being proposed to the NPL based on evidence that hazardous substances, including styrene, other organic aromatic compounds, and metals, including arsenic, chromium, lead, and mercury have migrated and/or could migrate to nearby water bodies, including the ICW, Grand Lake, Mermentau River, White Lake, Gueydan Canal, bayous, other small water bodies, and associated wetlands. These water bodies are used for recreational and commercial fishing and provide habitat for numerous waterbird nesting colonies and other wildlife.

In early 1980 through 1983, the Mallard Bay Landing Bulk Plant facility operated as a crude oil refinery. Mixed crude oil was refined to produce naphtha, diesel fuel, and No. 6 fuel oil. In August 1985, under new ownership, the facility resumed crude oil refining operations and continued operations until early 1987, when the owners filed for bankruptcy and the facility was closed. In 1987, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality-Hazardous Waste Division (LDEQ-HWD) conducted a site inspection in response to the bankruptcy proceedings. LDEQ noted that the facility had allegedly accepted hazardous waste fuels for which it was not permitted and had received and attempted to process styrene, a compound commonly used to produce plastics.

The facility was actively monitored by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resource (LDNR) and LDEQ during its operational years. Based on information obtained during a 1993 site inspection, LDEQ referred the site to EPA in June 1993. On July 30, 1996, EPA organized a removal assessment which included the sampling and analysis of tanks and drums located on site, and an evaluation of appropriate treatment and disposal options. From January to March 1999, EPA oversaw the removal and off-site disposal of approximately 866,304 gallons of oil/waste material from on-site tanks. An additional 152,392 gallons of thick, sludge-like oil/waste material could not be removed from some tanks due to its consistency and remains on site. Chemical analyses of this remaining tank waste revealed elevated concentrations of styrene, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, 2-methylnaphthalene, naphthalene, arsenic, barium, chromium, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, vanadium, and zinc. Sediment samples collected from the wetlands adjacent to the area containing the tank waste revealed elevated levels of arsenic, barium, copper, manganese, mercury, nickel, vanadium, and zinc.

More than 20 miles of wetland frontage exist within 15 miles of the facility. Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge is located approximately 10 miles west of the facility, and recreational fishing has been documented at Talen's Marine and Fuel, approximately 500 feet south of the facility. Grand Lake, located within Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge, is the primary commercial fishing grounds for both freshwater and marine species in Cameron Parish. Grand Lake and Mermentau River are the principal remaining habitats for the Paddlefish, an endangered species in the state of Louisiana.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.



**July 2000** 

OSWER/OERR

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### NEWTON COUNTY WELLS Newton County, Missouri

Conditions at Proposal (January 19, 1999): The Newton County Wells site is located in Newton County, in southwest Missouri. The site is being proposed to the NPL based on evidence that hazardous substances, including chlorinated solvents and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have migrated or have the potential to migrate to nearby drinking water supplies.

The site was initially identified in 1991 following a sampling event at the International Paper (IP) State Registry site by the Missouri Department of Health (MDOH). Trichloroethene (TCE) and cis-1,2-dichloroethylene (cis-1,2-DCE), which are not associated with the wood treatment wastes at the IP site, were detected in two of the residential wells, both located on Moorhead Drive, directly south of the FAG Bearings property in the Village of Silver Creek. Based on the detection of elevated concentrations of TCE in one of the original wells, nine other residential wells along Moorhead Drive were sampled which confirmed the presence of TCE in the ground water. Results of the initial well sampling indicated that homes located along FAG Bearings' southern property had the highest incidence and concentrations of TCE in Silver Creek. EPA and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) were notified and conducted follow-up sampling and analysis. Ground water was the sole source of drinking water for the people in Silver Creek, Missouri. Investigations at the site have identified the sources of the contamination to be located on the FAG Bearings Corporation Property. FAG Bearings is a facility that has been in operation since 1970 and manufactures roller bearing assemblies such as wheel bearing assemblies for the automotive industry. The facility had used TCE for degreasing ball parts for the bearing assemblies in the past but the operations were discontinued in about 1981. Various VOCs, including TCE and its degradation products such as vinyl chloride, cis-1,2-DCE, and 1,1-dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE) were found in ground water underlying FAG Bearings and down gradient from the facility.

TCE and cis-1,2-DCE were detected at concentrations of  $400 \,\mu\text{g/L}$  and  $11.4 \,\mu\text{g/L}$ , respectively in residential wells. Both exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of  $5.0 \,\mu\text{g/L}$  for each hazardous substance. MCLs are the highest level of a contaminant allowed by EPA in drinking water.

Several investigations were conducted at the site, including a Preliminary Assessment, Site Inspections with several sampling events, a Removal Action, an Expanded Site Inspection, a Phase II Remedial Investigation, and several private well sampling events. Consequently, TCE contamination was found in several residential wells located within two miles of the FAG Bearings property, within the Village of Saginaw. In August 1991, EPA began providing bottled water to 11 residences in Silver Creek and in January 1992, construction was initiated for Silver Creek to access the Missouri American Water Company. In July 1992, EPA began providing bottled water to the residents of Saginaw. Early in 1994, state funds were used to extend Joplin's water system to Saginaw.

**Status (July 2000):** Since December 1998, FAG has been conducting an investigation of contamination on their property with oversight by the MDNR. An additional round of residential well sampling within the Villages of Silver Creek and Saginaw is also part of the investigation to better identify the groundwater plume and transport of contamination. Presently, FAG is negotiating with the State of Missouri terms to conduct a complete Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and is considering alternatives for Removal actions for areas where TCE has been detected in soils and perched groundwater on FAG property. Groundwater remediation will be addressed in the FS.



# NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

**July 2000** 

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## PALMER BARGE LINE Port Arthur, Texas

Conditions at Proposal (May 11, 2000): The Palmer Barge Line site encompasses approximately 17 acres and is located on the Southeast Industrial Islet, approximately 4.5 miles east-northeast of the City of Port Arthur, Jefferson County, Texas, and 0.5 miles southwest of the confluence of the Neches River and the Sabine-Neches Canal. It is bordered to the south by the State Marine Superfund site and to the east by Sabine Lake. The site is being proposed to the NPL based on evidence that metals from former barge cleaning and maintenance operations have migrated and/or could migrate from the facility to Sabine Lake, which is an active commercial and recreational fishery and supports a number of sensitive environments.

The property was used as a municipal landfill from 1956 until 1982, when Palmer Barge Line, Inc. purchased it for use as a marine vessel service and maintenance facility. Palmer Barge Line, Inc. filed for bankruptcy in 1996. The current owner leases the property to a salvage business and a parking lot operation. Primary operations at the Palmer Barge Line facility included cleaning, degassing, maintenance, and inspection of barges and other marine equipment. Typical cleaning operations included the removal of sludge and other residual material by pressure steaming the vessel holds, engines, and boilers. Engines were degreased and thick accumulations were cut from the holds, making removal of residual material easier. Degassing activities involved the removal of explosive vapors from the barge hold. A flare was used to burn excess gasses and liquids produced during facility operations. Structures located on site include dozens of various-sized steel above ground storage tanks (ASTs), an oil-water separator, two mixed fuel boilers, two wastewater treatment tanks, several open-top slop tanks, roll-off boxes, and 55-gallon drums.

In 1996, the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC), conducted a multi-media investigation of the Palmer Barge Line facility, primarily to determine the status of the facility's compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act. During this inspection, TNRCC found that numerous compounds not represented on Palmer Barge Line's permits had been serviced at the facility without proper notification of TNRCC. TNRCC noted other violations for construction of tanks and other equipment without proper approval. These violations and the presence of large areas of waste oil-contaminated soils, breaches in berms surrounding tanks, and stressed vegetation prompted further investigations in 1998 and 1999. Samples collected from tanks and soils by EPA and TNRCC in 1999 identified the metals aluminum, antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead, magnesium, mercury, nickel, zinc. The investigations also suggested the presence of pesticides and other organic compounds, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), pentachlorophenol (PCP), and benzene.

The topography of the site is such that surface water runoff drains east across the facility to the barge landing where it enters Sabine Lake. Chemical analysis of sediment samples collected from Sabine Lake in 1999 document that aluminum, barium, chromium, cobalt, iron, lead, magnesium, nickel, and zinc have migrated from the Palmer Barge Line facility into the lake.

Sabine Lake is an estuary that is used as a commercial and recreational fishery. The habitats of four federally-listed endangered species, the bald eagle, black rail, gulf saltmarsh snake, and Texas diamondback terrapin, as well as the state-listed threatened American swallow-tailed kite, are found near the site. In addition, the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, Sydney Island and Dooms Island bird rookeries, and 13 miles of wetland frontage are located within 15 miles of the Palmer Barge Line site.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.



**July 2000** 

OSWER/OERR

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# SCOVILL INDUSTRIAL LANDFILL Waterbury, Connecticut

Conditions at Proposal (May 11, 2000): The Scovill Industrial Landfill is located north of Meriden Road in Waterbury, New Haven County, Connecticut. According to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, the Scovill Manufacturing Company used this area as a landfill from 1919 to the mid-1970s for disposal of ash, cinders, demolition debris, and other wastes generated by the facility. Before 1919, this area was part of a 30-acre parcel owned by Daniel J. McCarthy and consisted of undeveloped woodlands and wetland areas, with Carrington Brook flowing through the site from north to south. The parcel of land was sold to the Scovill Manufacturing Company on June 25, 1919.

The landfilling operations began along Meriden Road and slowly moved northward. Around 1941, when landfilling was complete along the southeast portion of the site, the company began subdividing and selling parcels of the site for development. As the wetlands and stream valley were filled, additional parcels were subdivided and sold to developers. Most of this development occurred over a 20-year period beginning in the mid-1950s and ending in the mid-1970s. By the mid-1990s, 12 acres of the 19-acre area had been developed into residential and commercial properties. The buildings currently on the site are two- and three-story residential structures and small commercial buildings, including a landscaping firm, adult daycare facility, social club, department store, cab service, medical office, car repair shop, and a shopping plaza.

The northern portion of the site is an undeveloped 6.8-acre parcel, referred to as the Calabrese parcel. This parcel was in the initial stages of development for a proposed elderly housing complex when industrial wastes were encountered during the excavation of soil for the concrete footings. The construction project was ordered to stop until the extent and degree of contamination was identified. EPA conducted sampling on April 26, 1999 through April 28, 1999 and collected soil samples from the site and surrounding area. Soil samples showed elevated levels of organic chemicals such as acenaphthene, flourene, anthracene, and chrysene; metals such as cadmium, nickel, silver, and zinc; and PCBs. The Calabrese parcel has since been fenced and posted, along with a temporary cap placed over the disturbed areas.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.



## NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

**July 2000** 

State, Tribal, and Site Identification Center

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### SOUTHERN SOLVENTS, INC. Tampa, Florida

Conditions at Proposal (May 11, 2000): Southern Solvents, Inc. is located at 4109 West Linebaugh Avenue in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida. From 1977 until 1985, Southern Solvents served as a distribution and retail point for tetrachloroethylene, also known as perchloroethylene or PCE. Tetrachloroethylene was stored in four aboveground storage tanks at the facility for distribution to dry cleaners in the area. After 1985, the facility property was leased to P.J.'s Spa until 1989 and is currently leased to AAA Diversified Services, which specializes in commercial painting. The site is being proposed to the NPL because elevated concentrations of tetrachloroethylene attributable to the former operations have been detected in ground water and nearby private drinking water wells.

The property is approximately 100 feet wide and 185 feet deep. A one-story metal warehouse is the only building on the property. During former solvent distribution operations, the aboveground storage tanks stood on a concrete pad on the north end of the building. One former tank had a total capacity of 3,000 gallons. The size of the other three tanks is unknown. The aboveground storage tanks were individually filled from tanker trucks that brought the product to the facility. Several leaks and spills of tetrachloroethylene occurred while the tanks were being filled and emptied. The spilled tetrachloroethylene was not contained and migrated from the concrete pad into the adjacent sandy soil.

In 1988 and 1989, the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services sampled the facility's drinking water well and several adjacent private drinking water wells. Elevated levels of tetrachloroethylene and the related compounds trichloroethylene and 1,2-dichloroethane were measured in the facility's well and four other wells. The Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services immediately advised people to discontinue using water from these wells and provided bottled water to the property owners and tenants for drinking, cooking, and bathing.

Additional investigations in 1989, 1994, and 1998-1999 also detected high levels of tetrachloroethylene in soil and ground water. During the 1998-1999 investigation, EPA detected high concentrations of tetrachloroethylene in the soil (in excess of 10,000 mg/kg) and in ground water samples from both the surficial and Floridan aquifers underlying the facility and adjacent properties.

The Florida Cites Water Department and the Northwest Hillsborough County Utilities maintain four municipal wells that draw water from the Floridan aquifer within 4 miles of the facility. These wells supply water to over 46,000 people in St. Petersburg, Hillsborough County, and the surrounding community. Several private and community wells serving approximately 700 people also draw water from the Floridan aquifer within 4 miles of the facility.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.



# NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

**July 2000** 

OSWER/OERR

State, Tribal, and Site Identification Center

Washington, DC 20460

# ST. JULIENS CREEK ANNEX (U.S. NAVY) City of Chesapeake, Virginia

Conditions at Proposal (February 4, 2000): St. Juliens Creek Annex (U.S. Navy) is located in southeastern Virginia at the confluence of St. Juliens Creek and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River in the city of Chesapeake. The northern boundary of the annex is the boundary between the cities of Portsmouth and Chesapeake, Virginia. The Elizabeth River and St. Juliens Creek form the eastern and southern boundaries, respectively, of the annex. Also to the north are residential developments and a road bed of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, and to the south lie sewage disposal and industrial waste ponds and residential developments. A residential section of Chesapeake City abuts the annex on the west. Norfolk Naval Shipyard is located less than one mile to the north. St. Juliens Creek Annex occupies approximately 490 acres, including 407 acres of land, 14 acres of marsh, and 69 acres of surface water.

The St. Juliens Creek Annex began operations in 1849 as an ordnance and material storage facility. In 1898, the facility was equipped for assembling ammunition. From 1898 to 1970, the facility was used to supply ammunition to the fleet in addition to loading, assembling, issuing, and receiving naval gun ammunition, and conducting experimental and test loading for new ammunition.

In 1969, St. Juliens Creek was disestablished under U.S. Department of Defense and was consolidated as an annex to the Naval Weapons Station, Yorktown, Virginia. Ordnance operations at the facility were terminated in the 1970s.

In 1977, the annex was transferred to the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. In 1995, it was transferred to Naval Base, Norfolk, and then it was transferred to Naval Station, Norfolk, in 1996. St. Juliens Creek Annex currently provides administrative offices, light industrial shops, and storage facilities for tenant naval commands. Its primary mission is to provide a radar testing range (35 acres) and various administrative and warehousing structures.

Former operations at the facility that generated potentially hazardous substances include metal plating, degreasing, painting, operation of hydraulic equipment, vehicles and locomotives, pest control, maintenance of lead-acid batteries, and printing. Trash and garbage generated from the facility was disposed in on-site dumps. Wastes were typically disposed in low areas, which are wetlands. Beginning in the late 1930s, waste ordnance materials were disposed on site. On-site disposal and storage of waste created numerous sources of potential contamination, including landfills and an ordnance disposal (burning) area. Sources of potential contamination located on the facility that were evaluated under the Hazard Ranking System include four landfills, an ordnance disposal area, a burn pit, a hazardous waste disposal area, a waste storage area, and a pesticide disposal area. Those sources were evaluated for their potential to release to the surface water migration pathway (Blows Creek, St. Juliens Creek, and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River). No significant target populations are associated with the groundwater migration, soil exposure, or air migration pathways.

An observed release of metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) from the sources to St. Juliens Creek and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River has been documented. The Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River provides habitat for numerous species that are identified as threatened or endangered under federal or state legislation. In addition, wetlands are associated with the river. Both St. Juliens Creek and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River are used for recreational fishing.

Status (July 2000): EPA and the Navy are considering various alternatives for this site.



## NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

**July 2000** 

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State, Tribal, and Site Identification Center

Washington, DC 20460

STAR LAKE CANAL Port Neches, Texas

Conditions at Proposal (July 22, 1999): The Star Lake Canal site is located in Port Neches, Texas, an industrial city adjacent to the Neches River in east Texas. The site consists of contaminated surface water sediments in the Jefferson Canal, Star Lake Canal, and Molasses Bayou. The Jefferson and Star Lake canals have received industrial wastewater and stormwater discharges from local chemical and other manufacturing facilities for a number of years. Although these discharges and other waste disposal activities likely account for the contamination found in the surface water sediments, to date, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has been unable to identify one or more specific sources of the contamination. This site is being added to the NPL based on evidence that hazardous substances, including chromium, copper, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), have migrated or could potentially migrate to Molasses Bayou, Star Lake Canal, Neches River, Sabine Lake and their associated wetlands.

In response to contamination discovered during dredging in the Jefferson Canal, TNRCC collected sediment samples in 1996 and 1998 from the Jefferson Canal, Star Lake Canal, and wetlands bordering the Molasses Bayou. TNRCC found elevated concentrations of chromium, copper, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the canal sediments and elevated concentrations of copper, PAHs, and pesticides in the Molasses Bayou wetlands.

In the absence of a specific source of contamination, the Star Lake Canal site has been identified as an area of contaminated sediments. The contaminated sediments extend more than 2 miles, spanning portions of Jefferson Canal, Star Lake Canal, and the Molasses Bayou to within ¼-mile of where the Molasses Bayou, Star Lake Canal, and Neches River converge.

More than 3 miles of wetlands front the surface water in which contaminated sediments have been detected. These wetlands are habitats known to be used by the white-faced ibis, a State-designated threatened species. From the confluence of the Molasses Bayou, Star Lake Canal, and Neches River, surface water flows down the Neches River approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles to Sabine Lake. Sabine Lake is used as a fishery and produced more than 1 million pounds of fish and shellfish in 1996.

Status (July 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.

### United States Environmental Protection Agency

Walk-in Address (by Appt.):

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